

REMARKS

In the Action, claims 1-15 are rejected. In response, claims 1 and 10 are amended, and claim 11 is cancelled. The pending claims in this application are claims 1-10 and 12-15, with claims 1 and 10 being independent.

In view of these amendments and the following comments, reconsideration and allowance are requested.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 1, 2 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0135677 to Noro et al. Noro et al. is cited for allegedly disclosing the claimed method of setting a web camera mode for a portable composite device.

As amended, claim 1 is directed to a method of setting a web camera mode for a portable composite device having an interface connectable with a personal computer and a zoom lens by determining whether a present mode of the portable composite device is set on a web camera mode in which the personal computer is connected to the interface and the portable composite device sets the zoom lens in a wide angle mode on the basis of a preset value when the mode is set in the web camera mode. Noro et al. does not disclose a portable composite device that can be set to a mode that can be used as a web camera and where the portable composite device sets the zoom lens to a wide angle mode on the basis of a preset value when the present mode is in the web camera mode as claimed. Therefore, claim 1 is not anticipated by Noro et al.

The Action refers to paragraph 0084 and paragraph 0072. These passages do not disclose the claimed invention. Paragraph 0072 refers to the console window 60

being displayed on the monitor screen having pan buttons 62 and 64 for instructing the pan direction of the camera, a telephoto button 72 for instructing the camera to zoom in the telephoto direction and a wide angle button 74. There is no suggestion of the portable composite device setting the zoom lens to a wide angle mode based on a preset value when the present mode is set in a web camera mode. The zoom or the wide angle mode of the lens in Noro et al. is adjusted by the operator selecting the selected button. The device of Noro et al. does not determine whether the web camera mode has been selected and setting the zoom lens to a wide angle mode based on the selected mode as claimed. Therefore, claim 1 is not anticipated by Noro et al.

Claims 2 and 8 are also not anticipated by Noro et al. as depending from claim 1 and for reciting additional features of the invention that are not disclosed or suggested in Noro et al. For example, Noro et al. does not disclose an image signal corresponding to an image acquired by the zoom lens set to the wide angle mode to a personal computer as in claim 2 in combination with the features of claim 1. Noro et al. further fails to disclose the step of releasing a setting of the wide angle mode if the personal computer is disconnected from the interface as in claim 8. The Action refers to paragraph 0084 as disclosing this feature. However, this passage only discloses displaying a message if the camera console is not connected to a camera. There is no suggestion of releasing the wide angle mode setting of the portable composite device when a personal computer is disconnected. Accordingly, claim 8 is not anticipated by Noro et al.

In view of the above comments, claims 1, 2 and 8 are not anticipated.

Claims 10, 14 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0017653 to Hata. Hata is cited for disclosing a portable device including a control unit and a switching unit

for switching and transmitting either digital data stored in a storage medium or digital data corresponding to the electrical signal.

Claim 10 as amended is not anticipated by Hata. In particular, Hata does not disclose or suggest a portable composite device having a control unit for converting an electrical signal output from the image pickup unit into digital data and generating a mode signal for selecting either data stored in the storage medium or digital data corresponding the electrical signal from the image pickup where the control unit sets a position of the zoom lens in the image pickup unit to a wide angle mode to a preset value in response to an external control signal from a personal computer and a switching unit for switching and transmitting either the digital data stored in the storage medium or the digital data corresponding to the electrical signal to a serial port in response to a mode selection signal from the control unit. Accordingly, claim 10 as amended is not anticipated by Hata.

Claims 14 and 15 are also not anticipated as depending allowable claim 10. Furthermore, Hata does not disclose the switching unit for outputting the digital data stored in the storage medium in a first logic level and outputting the digital data corresponding to the electrical signal in a second logic level as in claim 14 or the storage medium having a hard disk drive as in claim 15 in combination with the features of claim 10.

Accordingly, claims 10, 14 and 15 as amended are not anticipated by Hata.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 3 and 4 are rejected as being obvious over Noro et al. in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0112342 to Takeuchi. Noro et al. is cited as

in claim 1. Takeuchi is cited for disclosing setting a zoom lens to a wide angle mode based on a color temperature of the image.

Takeuchi relates to a processing system for providing high quality pick-up images by arrangement of signals where a white-balance is performed. The device includes a calculating device to calculate the control values as preset white control values. The white control values are obtained by a reference digital camera with light sources having different color temperatures.

There is no suggestion in Takeuchi of setting a lens to a specific mode. Furthermore, there is no suggestion of setting a lens to a wide-angle mode by setting a color temperature of the image signal to a specified color temperature as recited in claim 3.

The passage referred to in the Action does not disclose or suggest the features of claims 3 and 4. Takeuchi refers to calculating the control values using different light sources having an arbitrarily set, fixed color temperature by the reference digital camera signal and adjustment image data obtained by picking up the arbitrarily set fixed light source by the digital camera. There is no suggestion of setting a color temperature by calculating a color temperature difference between a preset color temperature and a color temperature of the image signal and compensating for the preset color temperature for setting a camera lens to a wide angle mode. Furthermore, there is no suggestion of setting a lens to a wide angle mode based on the color temperature as in claims 3 and 4. Accordingly, claims 3 and 4 are not obvious over Noro et al. and Takeuchi.

Claims 5 and 6 are rejected as being obvious over Noro et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,570,235 to Yoneyama. Yoneyama is cited for disclosing a drive assembly for adjusting a zoom lens of a camera. The rejection is based on the

position that it would have been obvious to include the drive assembly of Yoneyama in the device of Noro et al.

For the reasons discussed above, Noro et al. does not disclose or suggest the method of setting a web camera mode of a portable composite device as recited in amended claim 1. Yoneyama is relevant only to the extent that a drive device is disclosed that can adjust the position of a lens. Yoneyama does not provide the deficiencies of Noro et al. and does not disclose or suggest a method of setting a lens to a wide angle mode to a preset value based on the setting of the web camera mode as claimed. Thus, the combination of Noro et al. and Yoneyama does not render claim 5 obvious to one skilled in the art. Yoneyama further fails to disclose or suggest setting the focal distance of a zoom lens to a preset distance based on a preset web camera mode of a portable composite device as in claim 6. Accordingly, claim 6 is not obvious over the combination of Noro et al. and Yoneyama.

Claim 7 is rejected as being obvious over Noro et al. in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0040638 to Yoshikawa et al. Yoshikawa et al. is cited for disclosing a step of setting a focal distance to a specified distance by calculating a distance difference between the lens and an object. Yoshikawa et al. is relevant only to the extent of disclosing an optical device having driving information compensating for focal distance. Yoshikawa et al. does not suggest the deficiencies of Noro et al. Specifically, Yoshikawa et al. does not disclose or suggest setting a focal distance of a lens based on a selected web camera mode by calculating the distance difference between the zoom lens and an object based on a preset value and compensating for the focal distance according to the calculated difference. Yoshikawa et al. discloses adjusting the focus of the lens but does not specifically disclose calculating the distance difference between a zoom lens and an object based

on a preset value as recited in claim 7. Therefore, claim 7 is not obvious over the combination of Noro et al. and Yoshikawa et al.

Claim 9 is rejected as being obvious over Noro et al. in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0017653 to Hata. Hata is cited as disclosing a step of determining whether a video camera is used in a mass storage mode.

Hata relates to a digital video camera that can function as an internet server. The server determines whether a request of transmitting the moving storage data has been made from a personal computer. Hata does specifically disclose or suggest the step of determining whether a portable composite device is used in a mass storage mode and transmitting video/audio data from the portable composite device to the personal computer as in claim 9. Accordingly the combination of Noro et al. and Hata does not disclose or suggest the features of claim 9 so that claim 9 is not obvious.

Claim 11 is rejected as being obvious over Hata in view of Yoshikawa et al. Yoshikawa et al. is cited as disclosing setting the position of zoom lens. As amended, claim 10 includes the subject matter of claim 11 and is allowable for the reasons advanced above. The combination of Hata and Yoshikawa et al. does not disclose or suggest a control unit for setting a position of a zoom lens to a wide angle mode to a preset value in response an external control signal from a personal computer. The combination of Hata and Yoshikawa et al. further fails to disclose a switching unit for switching and transmitting either the digital data from the storage medium or the digital data corresponding to the electric signal in response to the mode selection of the control unit as in claim 10. Accordingly, claim 10 as amended is not obvious over the combination of Hata and Yoshikawa et al.

Claim 12 is rejected as being obvious over Hata in view of Takeuchi.

Takeuchi is cited as in claims 3 and 4 as disclosing the use of the color temperature for setting a lens position. Takeuchi refers to calculating the control values using different light sources having an arbitrarily set, fixed color temperature by the reference digital camera signal and adjustment image data obtained by picking up the arbitrarily set fixed light source by the digital camera. There is no suggestion of a control unit making the digital data correspond to an electrical signal having preset color temperature value in response to an external control signal. Accordingly, claim 12 is not obvious over the combination of Hata and Takeuchi.

Claim 13 is rejected as being obvious over the combination of Hata, Takeuchi and further in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0063197 to Sugiki. Sugiki is cited as disclosing a color temperature of 4500 °K as a preset color temperature. Sugiki is directed to a method and apparatus for estimating white balance and image sensing. Sugiki either alone or in combination with Takeuchi and Hata do not suggest a color temperature of 4500 °K as preset color temperature value in response to an external control signal setting a position of a lens to a wide angle in response to wide angle mode selection. Accordingly, claim 13 is not obvious over the combination of Hata, Takeuchi and Sugiki.

In view of these amendments and the above comments, the claims are submitted to be in condition for allowance over the art of record. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance are requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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